

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for dehydrating a biological tissues tissue for producing preserved transplants, ~~wherein, in a first step,~~ comprising the steps of:

(a) dehydrating the tissue is~~dehydrated~~ to a water content in the ~~region from~~ range of 10 weight percent to 25 weight percent by subjecting the tissue to an extraction with an organic solvent which can be mixed with water; and, ~~in a second step,~~

(b) dehydrating the tissue is further ~~dehydrated~~ by freeze drying.

2. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein, ~~in the first step, dehydration is carried out with~~ said organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of: methanol, ethanol, propanol, isopropanol, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone ~~or their~~ and mixtures thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein, ~~in the first step, dehydration is carried out~~ the tissue is dehydrated in step (a) at a temperature from 0°C to 70°C.

4. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising the step of subjecting the tissue is ~~subjected~~ to a vacuum treatment before ~~the second~~ step (b).

5. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim 1, ~~wherein, in the first step,~~ further comprising the step of subjecting the tissue ~~is subjected~~ to a vacuum treatment before ~~the first extraction step (a)~~ and after ~~every extraction step (a)~~ with the organic solvent.

6. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim 1, ~~wherein, in the first step,~~ the tissue is subjected to a treatment with ultrasound, with a vibrator or with a shaker during the extraction with the organic solvent in step (a).

7. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim 1, ~~wherein, in the first step,~~ an overpressure, an alternating pressure or an underpressure is applied during the extraction with the organic solvent in step (a).